Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00

PRS-01 /053 W

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R 021350Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7144 INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

CONFIDENTIAL AMMAN 1168

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, OVIP

SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN VISIT TO US: GOJ INTEREST IN U.S.

LANDING RIGHTS

REF: (A) STATE 12417, (B) AMMAN 413 (NOTAL), (C) DAMASCUS 1128, (D) DAMASCUS 899

- 1. EMBASSY FORWARDS LATEST UPDATE ON ALIA U.S. LANDING RIGHTS ISSUE, FOR USE IN DEPT'S PREPARATION OF MATERIAL ON THIS ISSUE IN CONNECTION WITH KING HUSSEIN'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO U.S. WE BELIEVE ISSUE WILL PROBABLY COME UP DURING KING'S VISIT.
- 2. EMBASSY FIRST BECAME AWARE OF GOJ INTEREST IN OBTAINING LANDING RIGHTS IN U.S. FOR ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRLINES (ALIA) WHEN SUBJECT WAS RAISED INFORMALLY BY PRESIDENT OF ALIA LAST SEPTEMBER. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE HAD NO DISCUSSION WITH GOJ REPRESENTATIVES ON THIS SINCE THAT TIME, KING HUSSEIN'S INTEREST IN AVAITION IS WELL KNOWN. WE ARE ALSO AWARE THAT GOJ HAS GIVEN CAREFUL THOUGHT TO BEST WAY IN WHICH TO PROCEED IN OBTAINING LANDING RIGHTS FOR JORDAN IN U.S. AND HAS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE NEED FOR KING TO MAKE POLITICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROACH TO HIGH LEVEL OF USG TO OBTAIN LANDING

PRIVILEGES. WE DO NOT KNOW IF GOJ HAS DECIDED THAT INTERCESSION BY KING IS APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME.

BUT CERTAINLY HIS UPCOMING VISIT TO US PRESENTS A SPECIAL OPPROTUNITY FOR HIM OR FOR PRIME MINISTER TO DO SO, WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY. IN MEANTIME, WE SUSPECT JORDANIAN EMBASSY AND U.S. LAW FIRM CONNOLE AND O'CONNELL ARE PROBABLY GOOD SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON DETAILED GOH POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

3. IN PUBLIC ADDRESS GIVEN IN NEW YORK ON DECEMBER 4. 1975. CROWN PRINCE REFERRED TO ALIA HOPES OF INAUGURATING 747 SERVICE TO US TO COINCIDE WITH OPENING OF NEW AMMAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SCHEDULED FOR LATE 1977. MOST RECENTLY ALIA PRESIDENT GHANDOUR MADE ANNOUNCEMENT INJORDAN PRESS TODAY (MARCH 1) THAT "AS SOON AS ALIA RECEIVES ITS NEW JUMBO JET AIRLINERS (I.E., 747S) IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER, IT WILL RUN FLIGHTS TO NORTH AMERICA IN COOPERATION WITH SYRIAN AIRLINES COMPANY." IT IS THEREFORE POSSIBLE (REF C AND PARA 4, REF B) THAT JORDANIANS MAY BE ASSUMING THAT, BECAUSE OF PAA LANDING RIGHTS IN DAMASCUS, SYRIA QUALIFIES FOR RECIPROCAL LANDING RIGHTS IN U.S. WHICH ALIA WILL BE ABLE TO UTILIZE THROUGH ITS JOINT 747 SERVICE WITH SYRIAN AIR LINES. WE RECOMMEND DEPT FORMULATE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE PRIOR TO KING'S VISIT.

4. FOR DAMASCUS: PER YOUR QUERY REF C, IF WE ARE ABLE TO LOCATE NAJEEB HALABY IN AMMAN, WE WILL OBTAIN AND FORWARD INFORMATION ON HIS TRAVEL PLANS. PICKERING

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: LANDING RIGHTS, VISITS, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES

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Subject: KING HUSSEIN VISIT TO US: GOJ INTEREST IN U.S. LANDING RIGHTS

TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, OVIP, SA, ALIA, (HUSSEIN, KING)
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